Northwest Amateur Packet Radio Association

Membership Application and Renewal Form

NAPRA, the Northwest Amateur Packet Radio Association is an organization of Amateur Radio Operators dedicated to the growth of the Amateur Packet Radio Network (AMPRNET) in the Pacific Northwest. Membership is open to all interested individuals. NAPRA's yearly dues are $15.00 and include a subscription to NAPRA's quarterly newsletter Zero Retries.

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ BBS: _____ TCP/IP: _____

Any information you **don't** want published in the NAPRA Roster? _____

The information below is optional. This information helps NAPRA in its efforts to improve the Pacific Northwest Amateur Packet Radio Network.

Packet Capable RF Equipment: _____

Computer & TNC Equipment: _____

Member of other Organizations? _____

Special Skills (RF H/W, S/W): _____

Any Comments? _____

Please return the completed application to:
NAPRA, 2948 217th Place SW, Brier, WA 98036

updated May, 1990 by Steve Stroh N8GNJ

PACKET RADIO INFORMATION

FOR WESTERN WASHINGTON - SUMMER 1990

The Northwest Amateur Packet Radio Association

NAPRA is an organization of Amateur Radio Operators dedicated to the growth and continued improvement of the Pacific Northwest Packet Radio Network. NAPRA was one of the first organizations in the country to base their portion of the Amateur Packet Radio Network (AMPRNET) around the concept of a "backbone"- a dedicated channel for linking between nodes. This concept has proven to work extremely well- so well, in fact that the backbone channel is now seriously overloaded from the more than fifty nodes connected to it. NAPRA sponsors the two primary nodes in the Seattle area- SEA on 145.01 and SEAW on 144.99. NAPRA is in the advanced stages of constructing a 440 MHz full duplex repeater system that will help take some of the load off of the backbone channel. When it is completed and installed early this summer many of the nodes in the Seattle area will move their backbone connection to take advantage of this new system. NAPRA is involved in experiments with faster modems for packet radios, such as the TAPR PacketRadio which will run at 9600 baud instead of the current standard 1200 Baud. NAPRA is also investigating the use of more robust packet protocols such as TCP/IP. NAPRA plans to install several "IP switches" on key node sites this year for experimentation. Those using the current Net/Rom node controllers will notice little difference, other than additional features becoming available.

NAPRA General meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month, beginning at 1:00 PM. The meetings rotate between the Radio Club of Tacoma's Clubhouse, 1249 Washington Street in Tacoma on odd months, and the Boeing Employees Amateur Radio Society (BEARS) Clubhouse at the Renton Municipal Airport on Airport Way in Renton on even months. The General meetings are structured to allow plenty of time for the featured program, and a question and answer session, as well as advanced and beginner's chat sessions. NAPRA Board of Director's meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the Omni Restaurant, 4701 South 188th Street South in Seattle, beginning at 7:00 PM.

Membership in NAPRA is open to all interested individuals. NAPRA's yearly dues are $15.00 and include a subscription to NAPRA's quarterly newsletter Zero Retries. For more information on NAPRA, please write to: NAPRA, 2948 217th Place SW, Brier, WA 98036, WA7FUS @ KD7NM, TCP/IP 44.24.0.21, E-mail- pdahl@milton.u.washington.edu.

Recommended TNC Settings

Setting your TNC to these parameters will help make the most effective use of most nodes:

Dwait: 16 **Frack:** 6 **Paclen:** 80 **Resptime:** 5

Packet Radio Voice Net

The Thursday Night Packet Radio Ragchew is an excellent place to get help with any problems you might be having with Packet Radio. The Ragchew meets every Thursday evening between 9:00 and 10:00 PM on the Boeing Employees Amateur Radio Society's 145.33 repeater. The Ragchew is also carried on other repeater systems linked into the Evergreen Intertie repeater linking system. Helping newcomers to packet is a special interest of the Ragchew.

Another great place to get help with packet problems is the 224.78 "Packet Intercom" repeater. Many Seattle area packeteers use this repeater .

An Introduction to Packet Radio booklet is available

A printed copy of An Introduction to Packet Radio by Larry Kenney WB9LOZ is available for $5.00 (to help defray the cost of printing and postage) from NAPRA. This excellent 16 part series is written in tutorial form, and starts with an introduction to what Packet Radio is, and continues through topics of interest to advanced packet users. Additional articles, including such classics as "Packet POOP" are also included with the series.

Operating with TCP/IP

To get a TCP/IP address, contact Clifford Neuman N1DMM[1] or Dennis Goodwin KB7DZ[2]. Most TCP/IP activity takes place on the YTHNET 224.56 repeater system and the SEAW 144.99 Node. The YTHNET repeater is dedicated to packet activity, and it's full duplex nature makes it an excellent place to use TCP/IP. Many users are using the new PA0GRI Largenet software, G1EMM's version of NOS, and KA9Q's latest NOS releases. All of these packages add many features not found in the stock KA9Q TCP/IP "net" software.

Direct, But *Deadly*! (Why Not To Connect Direct On A Simplex Node Frequency)

Briefly, the main point about connecting direct to your buddy or a BBS when using a simplex node frequency is that the node cannot act as "traffic cop" for the node frequency and allow equal access to all if you don't connect to the node and then request the node to complete the connection for you. If you do go direct on a node frequency, the node will hear your signals, and refrain from transmitting. Packets sent to the node by other stations do not get acked, forcing retries, and traffic coming in from the backbone can't go anywhere. Eventually the node's buffer fills up and resets itself, disconnecting all users. This effect is very similar to working simplex on the input of a PL protected repeater. The stations working simplex aren't bothered, but their use of that frequency blocks use of the repeater by other users.

It's Simple Fairness- When On A Simplex Node, Please Don't Connect Direct.

If you want to work direct with another station, the frequencies **145.71**, **145.75**, and **147.79** are designated for experimental purposes (145.73 and 144.77 are also experimental frequencies, but are currently used by the Seattle area DX Packet Cluster.)

Node Information

144.91	Ellensburg	ELN:N7HHU-8	145.01	Enumclaw	SEA:WN7ANK-8
144.93	Astoria OR	AST:W7FBM-8	145.03	Port Townsend	PTN:K7TPN-8
144.95	Seattle	ALKI:N7FSP-1	145.05	Spanaway	SITN2:WA7NTF-8
144.97	Victoria BC	SPR:VE7SPR-7	145.05	Vancouver BC	SVAN:VE7LAN-4
144.99	Bremerton	SEAW:N7HFZ-8	145.07	Olympia	OLY:K7APT-8

145.07*	Vancouver BC	YVR:VE7LAN-4
145.09	Everett	EVT:KA7VEE-8
146.98*	Enumclaw	BALDY:WB6VAC-8
224.56*	Bremerton	YTHNET:WB7FHC-8

* *Full duplex node*

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[1] P.O. Box 45775, Seattle, WA 98145-0775, 206/789-8788 (home), 206/543-7798 (work), E-mail- bcn@cs.washington.edu.

[2] 1748 Harrison Avenue SE, #M4, Port Orchard, WA 98366, 206/871-5818 (home), 206/396-2160 (work), KB7DZ @ KD7NM, TCP/IP 44.24.0.6.

Updated 5/90 by Steve Stroh N8GNJ